






Paw Prints



school.stpiusx.com

Paw Prints is e-mailed to you every Thursday. Please open it and read the bold print to determine if you need to continue reading the items that pertain to you.

Important Dates:

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4	5 Mass 8:00 (1st-4th) <i>Reconciliation Gr. 5-8</i>	6 Mass 8:00 (5th-8th) <i>Reconciliation Gr. 2-4</i> 	7 <i>Birthday Club!</i> 	8 <i>No School</i>	9 All School Mass 8:00	10 <i>HSPT for 8th Graders</i>
11	12 Mass 8:00 (1st-4th)	13 Mass 8:00 (5th-8th) <i>8th Grade Field Trip</i>	14 <i>1st Grade Field Trip</i>	15	16 All School Mass 8:00	17 Christmas Break Begins! 

Lunch Menu:

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December 5th through December 16th Lunch is \$2.75 daily & Milk .50¢ USDA is an equal opportunity provider & employer

Monday 12/5	Tuesday 12/6	Wednesday 12/7	Thursday 12/8	Friday 12/9
Meatloaf Mashed Potatoes Gravy, Roll Corn Pears Fruit Workers Mary Jo Sybert Ron Sybert (Milk) Heather Aasen Need 2 Workers	Chicken Nuggets Mac & Cheese Steamed Broccoli Salad Applesauce Fruit Ketchup, BBQ Cup Ranch Or Italian Dressing Workers Jennifer Summe Julie Wagner Beth Joyce Yvonne Holyoke Need 1 Worker	Chicken Patty On Bun Oven Fries Baked Beans Mandarin Oranges Frozen Sidekick Ketchup, Mayo Snacks For Sale Workers: Jaime Halpin Michelle Bultman (Milk) Joanne Theobald Need 3 Workers	NO SCHOOL	Grilled Cheese Sandwich Tomato Soup Salad Pears Fruit Ranch Or Italian Dressing Snacks For Sale Workers Natalie Gunning Candace Bonta Rusty Collinsworth Need 3 Workers

Peanut Butter, Peanut Butter & Jelly & Cheese Sandwiches Provided Daily Milk & Juice Provided Daily

Monday 12/12	Tuesday 12/13	Wednesday 12/14	Thursday 12/15	Friday 12/16
Pepperoni Pizza Salad Steamed Broccoli Mandarin Oranges Fruit Ranch Or Italian Dressing Snacks For Sale Workers Mary Jo Sybert Ron Sybert (Milk) Crystal Galasso Jen Lyons Need 1 Worker	Hamburger Or Cheeseburger On Bun Oven Fries Baked Beans Pineapples Fruit, Pickles Ketchup, Mayo, Mustard Workers Emily Durrett (Milk) Joe Durrett Laura Riggs Yvonne Holyoke Need 2 Workers	Scrambled Eggs Dutch Waffle Sausage Patty Veggie Boat With Dip Baked Apples Fruit Ketchup, Syrup Workers Maria Rovito Becky Safarayk Carol Annear Need 2 Workers	Salisbury Steak With Gravy Mashed Potatoes Roll, Peas Pears, Fruit Snacks For Sale Workers Andi Jacocks (Milk) Carrie Barlage Need 4 Workers	Pizza Crunchers With Marinara Salad, Green Beans Mandarin Oranges Fruit Ranch Or Italian Dressing Workers Kevin Kremer Gretchen Hartzler Michelle Sanning Steve Sanning Amy Fathman

Principally Speaking



Dear Parents,

I hope this Advent season finds you and your families preparing your hearts and homes for Christ. At school, we began the season with an Advent Prayer Service on Monday, November 28. Students and teachers joined with Fr. Hennigen and prayed, sang songs and learned about the Jesse tree. It was a beautiful way to focus our minds and hearts on Christ.

Our December virtue of the month is saying yes to Christ. I encourage you to spend time with Christ this month. Try to set a time to be with Him daily. I also challenge you to be fully present to one another during this extremely busy time of year. Multi-tasking can be another way of remaining distracted and not fully engaged in what matters most. Our families and friends truly make this time of year such a special one.

Just a reminder that our Penny War is going on this week. All proceeds will be donated to Catholic Charities. Students are encouraged to bring in their loose change for a great cause! The class with the most change will enjoy a special prize! What a fun way to encourage service!

Take care of one another and may you know the peace of Christ,

Mrs. Lonnemann

Counselor's Corner

Dear Mrs. Clark,

Can you help me find new and creative ways to get my student to talk to me about school? Every day I ask them how their day was and of course, the response is always a one word answer. Do you have any suggestions to help encourage communication with my child?

Sincerely,

Troubled Talker



Dear Troubled Talker,

Talking to your child about their school day is very important. Parents should help their child learn effective communications skills so they can talk about their feelings and problems. This will help them take the skills they have learned at home and use them with their teachers and peers at school. Here are a few suggestions that you can try with your student:

- **Ask them about the highs and lows of their day.** This is a good way to begin the discussion. By asking them about the best and worst part of their day, you are helping them reflect on the moments of their school day while also getting more details than just a one word answer.
- **Use a fun question to prompt the discussion.** If asking about the highs and lows of the day doesn't work, try asking your student about things they wouldn't expect. Try "If your day at school was a movie, what movie would it be?" or "If you got to be the teacher tomorrow, what would you do?"
- **Building upon their peer relationships by talking about friendships.** Use questions like "Who would you like to play with at recess who you've never played with before?" or "Who in our class do you think you could be a little nicer to?"
- **Ask them one thing they learned today.** While it is important to have your student talking about the fun things they did or the friends that they played with, you should also have your student reflect on learning aspects of their day. See if there is a subject they liked most today by telling you something new that they learned. This will also help improve memorization and recall skills.

Have a question for the counselor?? Email me at nrauen@teachers.stpiusx.com.

The Snow is Coming!

Maybe not today or tomorrow, but school delays and closings are inevitable. To keep our St. Pius families informed of weather notifications, we are using a new system called *The School Messenger*. We will be



exporting your contact information from Ascend (emails and phone

numbers) into the new program. **Please log in to Ascend ASAP to update your contact information or check for accuracy.** Only two emails and two numbers can be listed per family. Thanks!



What's new in the Classroom

Library!



The Parent Storytellers recently visited the k-3rd grade classes in the library wearing a stylish new accessory, gratitude glasses! They read two Thanksgiving stories to the students and discussed our November virtue of gratitude. We are truly grateful for all the volunteers who help with this program!



ODDS AND ENDS-

- **PTG Faculty and Staff Christmas Gift Program** - Let PTG do the shopping! This program was created over a decade ago to make Christmas shopping easy and to allow St. Pius families to remember all staff members (teachers, aides, secretaries, maintenance, cafeteria, administration, priests . . .) who make a daily difference in your child's education at Christmas time. Each staff member will receive gift certificates to use for shopping, dining or other entertainment. This is a voluntary program and any amount is accepted. All children are recognized on a card. Please use the attached donation form and send cash or check (payable to St. Pius X PTG) to Attn: Sharon Gronotte, PTG Christmas Program. Be sure to include name(s) of your child(ren). The deadline for collecting donations is Friday, December 9th so that the elves have time to shop! Questions? Contact Sharon at 341-6766 or sgronotte@fuse.net.
- **Thank you!** - "As God gives good things freely, so we should give freely to needy people" -*Blessed Mother Teresa*. Many thanks to our parish and school community's response to the call to feed the hungry. Thanks to your generosity, **64 LOCAL NEEDY FAMILIES** received groceries to prepare a proper Thanksgiving feast!! Special thanks to the Christian Outreach Committee and van drivers Sue Meier, Sandy Even, Terry and Theresa Averbeck, Judy and Ray Albrinck who help make this happen every year. Please keep your gift to the needy alive by continuing your prayers for all struggling families. If you didn't get a chance to help this time or you'd love to help again, our parish will be providing Easter meal groceries for needy families in the spring. - Becky Maschinot and Danette Doggett
- **Birthday Club News** - The second meeting of the St. Pius Library's Birthday Club will be on Wednesday, December 7th from 2:00-3:00 in the library. Students who have celebrated or will celebrate their birthdays during the months November, December, or January received an invitation. We hope you will meet your children after school in the library to select, have some refreshments, and be a part of our Birthday Club. Thank you in advance for continuing to help us add wonderful new books to our library shelves! **Some invitations had the incorrect date on them. Please note Birthday Club will be on December 7th. Sorry for the inconvenience.**
- **Art and Writing Contest** - Mrs. Garbett's Panther Pause group of fifth and sixth graders has organized an art and writing contest for all grades. The contest honors the memory of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; the theme is "Let Freedom Ring!" K-4 students are invited to decorate a poster, no larger than 12" x 18". Fifth through eighth grade students have three options: an art piece, a poem, or a short story. All entries must focus on Dr. King and the theme, "Let Freedom Ring!" Fliers with complete details were sent home three weeks ago. There are also contest posters on the walls around the school. All art work should be given to Mrs. Walters in the art room. Mrs. Henson is accepting the poems and short stories. The contest deadline is Monday, December 5. Award winners will be notified before our Christmas break. An awards celebration will be held in January, close to Dr. King's birthday (January 15). Questions? Contact Mrs. Garbett at jgarbett@teachers.stpiusx.com

- **Chromebook Care** - We are very blessed to have a 1:1 Chromebook program for the students at St. Pius. We have asked them to take responsibility for their learning as well as this educational device. Unfortunately, we are experiencing issues with the students taking on this responsibility. I have reviewed the following steps with them to insure proper care of the Chromebook. Please review the follow care steps with your children.
 1. Do not place any books or other objects on top of the Chromebook. The weight can damage the screen. The most common example of this is students placing books on top of their Chromebook while carrying it to and from class. The cases provided have handles so that the students can carry them properly.
 2. Only open the Chromebook while it is on a flat surface like a table/desk.
 3. Do not drop your books and the Chromebook inches/feet above the floor.

The most common situation is that the students drop their books including the Chromebook from a few feet above the floor as they enter class. This is the major cause of screen damage. The screen damage is a \$75 charge and is the responsibility of the student/parent as per handbook. Please help me reinforce these guidelines with our students and encourage them to accept responsibility for their Chromebook.

- **Advent Giving Tree** - Our 8th graders, who are preparing for Confirmation, are busy elves! It has become a tradition that St. Pius X 8th graders are responsible for the Advent Giving Tree in church. Each year they spend time preparing the tags, hanging the ornaments, and gathering and sorting the gifts. Our parish is so very generous, and the students have hundreds of presents to get ready for Christmas. All of the gifts are for someone special and are organized through local charities. When the packages are ready, some holiday-spirited Confirmandi will load the trucks and maybe even get to help deliver the presents. May God bless our young people as they become the Hands of Christ for others this Advent season.

St. Pius X School Mission Statement

Discipline for Life

The mission of St. Pius X School is to promote the spiritual, academic, and personal growth of each child by embracing the Gospel values of Jesus Christ. ST. Pius X School provides an exemplary Catholic education that helps students to be successful in their families, their communities, and the world.